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THE BELL RINGER



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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

SEPTEMBER 21, 1994

Mr. Gioia's First Impressions

Yesterday morning I addressed the MBA faculty for the first time at our annual in-service program. My own anticipations for working with this great community have begun to be realized. Since early July I have been privileged to be MBA's 15th headmaster. I now know firsthand some of the responsibilities, the expectations, and the sense of great history associated with MBA.

For me personally, this opportunity is a wonderful challenge. As many of you know, I was one of Dr. Paschall's students at the University of the South. He has been for me a great teacher, a wonderful friend, and a role model over these past twenty years. I am honored to continue his work, love, and commitment for Montgomery Bell Academy. I will do my best to meet these challenges.

I have enjoyed immensely my introduction to MBA. I knew immediately that I would enjoy the people, traditions, and ideals of the school. Last December when I visited the campus, I was captivated by the focus and

genuineness of the MBA "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete" ideal, and I was overwhelmed by the changes and development on this

campus -- most of which occurred in the past few years. I studied the school profile carefully, marveled at the changes in Fine Arts, and noted the



Monte Poe rambles against Ryan; for details, see page 6.

campus -- most of which occurred in the past few years. I studied the school profile carefully, marveled at the changes in Fine Arts, and noted the

community. My initial impressions have been deepened by the love and incredible loyalty that all of the MBA con-

stituencies have for this school. Almost every day since I have been at MBA, individuals speak passionately about their experiences here. Many highly successful alumni say without qualification that their time at MBA was the best and most meaningful experience of their lives. The depth of commitment and attachment to this institution is immense, probably as powerful as any other school in this country. We all have a great responsibility at MBA to uphold these traditions and to build upon them.

I know already that we have a student body and faculty who are exceptional. Their achievements speak for themselves, but just as importantly I am impressed by their care and sensitivity. Last May, for example, when I spoke at Honors Night, a student introduced himself to one of my friends in the crowd. The student noticed that my friend did not have a program and asked if my friend would like him to find one for him. When the student returned, he apologized that he could only find a wrinkled program. This summer I saw a number of you helping

Please see Impressions, page 8

Servicemen Speak

by Randy Howell, Kit Ozburn, and Jimmy Rupley

The 1994-95 year for the MBA Service Club promises to be a very fruitful and successful endeavour not only for the school but also for the MBA community. After restructuring the constitution instituted by former CEO, President, and founding father, Mr. Flag Youngblood, (Sigh!) the officers have scouted several appealing projects to lead off the new year. Hoping to rescue the Service Club left in shambles from a disastrous past, the officers have labored countless industrious hours.

Finally, after weeks atop Mount Sinai, the Great Constitution was delivered directly from the Hand of God, who suggested the first event on September 17-18, directing parking at Belle Meade Mansion's Fall Fest. Details will be addressed at regular meetings. In respect to the credit system, familiar to most of you from the previous years, it is again in effect for this year. However, contrary to last year, members will be



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Patrick Wilson Library Montgomery Bell Academy Nashville, Tennessee

"Time to Rise" Has Risen to Occasion

by Zach Skipper

In 1992 Bill Weaver, local philanthropist, and history teacher Mr. David Whitfield established a program known as "Time to Rise." The purpose of the program as defined by Mr. Whitfield is "to offer high-risk youth an opportunity to develop basic academic skills while allowing students to enjoy a structured environment of discipline that fosters individual responsibility."

Over the summer, Ensworth, Harpeth Hall, and Montgomery Bell Academy had a total of sixty students enrolled in this camp. MBA hosted nineteen of those sixty. Last year the camp ran for six weeks, while this year the time was shortened to five weeks, which was plenty of time to squeeze in a little fun with the learning. Before the youth

begin the five week study session they are given a pre-test to gauge where students stand academically. Following their completion of the camp, students take a follow-up test which demonstrates the extent to which they have absorbed the subject matter. The first summer, 1993, proved to be a success, as the average grades of the students significantly increased. A metro school bus picked up the sixth and seventh-grade students from two designated neighborhoods and delivered them to MBA, where they began their day with breakfast and a few motivational words. After being fed a nutritious meal, and having heard an inspiring speech, it was off to the classroom for four basic subjects: geography, grammar, science, and math.

After class it was time for lunch. When lunch was finished, the youth took to the field or the court for athletics. The youth took part in the annual MBA Sports Camp throughout its duration. The day's activities were done by 3:30 in the afternoon. The monotony of the daily schedule was relieved when Fridays rolled around. Every Friday was field-trip day. "Time to Rise" went on such excursions as bowling and

Please see Time, page 6.

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Letter From the Editor

Instead of ranting and raving over the aggravations of being editor of the paper, I will take a more novel approach. This year marks *The Bell Ringer's* fiftieth anniversary, and I find it necessary to devise some means of celebrating this landmark date in publishing history for MBA. In this regard, I would enjoy any response to the question "what are we going to do?"

Before the resumption of the school, both my staff and myself had high hopes for the paper: rebuilding student's interest in the paper and making *The Bell Ringer* a more journalistic experience. Pursuing this

vein, we will be setting up workshops with speakers from professional publications around the city. Dr. Griffith and Mr. Moxley are very in



The Head Honchos

terested in such plans as well; so you can hopefully participate in these endeavours in the future.

For the next issue, we need more writers, photographers, typists, and money mongers. . . This means YOU

people; listen to the announcements for the time when we will be assigning articles (it should be around late September or early October); and if you feel you have something to say, show up!

With all that said, I hope you find the first issue interesting, remember patience is virtue and that the paper can only get better with time and your interest. Good luck, until the next issue.

TC

The Bell Ringer would like to thank Mrs. Welhoelter for her tremendous help.

The Bell Ringer

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Would you like your name here? If the answer is yes, send us a good reason to do so, and voilà!

The Newest Additions to MBA's Flock

by Zach Skipper

Each year as I return to the "Hill" something has changed for the better; be it additions, remodeling, and improvement to our facilities, loftier goals set by the administration, broader opportunities for the students, or new faces in the faculty. This year is no exception.

The locker rooms have undergone a magnificent facelift. Fresh paint and carpet have given the old Carter Building an updated look. Most importantly, however, are the coaching skills and teaching talents of the eight men and women whose personal profiles are listed below. By now, you should know that though they may be new faculty members, they exhibit the same standards of quality we've come to associate with our instructors. Though this may be a typical first-issue feature of the newspaper, these are not just your typical teachers! Take a gander!

Norman Kyle Bills - Instructor in History. Mr. Bills joins MBA after teaching and

coaching at Franklin-High School, Lincoln County High School, and Goodpasture High School. He received a B.S. in Social Studies Education from The University of Tennessee, and an M.Ed. in Educational Administration from Tennessee State University. Mr. Bills will also be Head Basketball Coach. Mr. Bills and his wife, Nadine, have three children: Wattlow Kyle (11); Anthony Collins (9); and Lisah Nadine (6).

Elizabeth C. (Libby) Bourland - Instructor in English for 7th Grade. Mrs. Bourland joins the faculty after a number of years in education in the Metropolitan Nashville Schools and as a substitute teacher at Ensworth. She has also worked in the private sector with the Patrick Creative Group and Upbeat Basics Children's Record Company. Mrs. Bourland received her B.A. Degree in English from Vanderbilt in 1972. She is also currently working on a M.Ed. Libby and her husband, Til, have two sons at MBA, John and Rob.



Top Row: Calhoun, Bills, Moore, and Horwell;
Bottom Row: Caudill, Hamblen, Bourland,
and Lisenby

Stanley J Lamar Calhoun - Instructor in English. A recent graduate of Amherst College with a B.A. in Black Studies and English, Stan is one of my former students at Darlington School. He was a member of the varsity Track Team and President of the Amherst Gospel Choir. Stan will also be working with our Basketball and Track teams.

Edward Caudill: Instructor in Mathematics. Mr. Caudill joins the faculty after teaching and coaching at Dickson County High School for the

past nine years. He received a B.S. in Biology from David Lipscomb College, and he has done extensive graduate work in math and science. Mr. Caudill will coach varsity football and assist with the winter sports program. He and his wife, Melinda, have three young children.

Matthew Lisenby: Instructor in Chemistry and Physics. A graduate of Vanderbilt with both a B.S. in Educational Studies and an M.Ed. in Science Education, he grew up

Atlanta. He has done some student teaching at Hunter's Lane High School and Westminster School. Matt has also been involved with outdoor education as a Rock Climbing Instructor. He will assist with the Varsity wrestling program.

Sherry Hamblen: Part-time instructor in Spanish. A graduate of Michigan State University (B.A. in Spanish) with study at the graduate school level (Michigan State University of South Carolina), Mrs. Hamblen joins MBA with experience as a tutor at Franklin Road Academy and Spanish teacher at Harpeth Academy. She has also worked as an interpreter and translator in numerous capacities, and she served as Chair of the Spanish Department at Lamar County Public School. Mrs. Hamblen and her husband, Richard, have a young son at Ensworth.

Thomas Lowell Moore: Instructor in History. Mr. Moore returns to MBA after a seven-year absence from teaching

NEWS

HONOR COUNCIL
PREVIEW

**Rob
Welhoelter**
Honor
Council
President

Because MBA prides itself on gentlemanly conduct, honor is a vital quality of the MBA community. We as students are responsible for preserving this positive quality of our campus life. Ideally a school of aspiring young gentlemen should not need an Honor System, but as everyone knows, people make mistakes. Those misjudgments are the precise reason to have an Honor Council available to reinforce the expectations of the community for an estimable citizen.

This year's Honor Council members are dedicated to serving the students in an effort to promote an atmosphere of trust throughout the school. Such an environment can only enhance the learning experience of going

to a school like MBA. The duty of each student is not only to adhere to the policies of the Honor Code, but also to hold other students accountable for breaches of either the code or a teacher's interpretation of the code.

However unrealistic it may be, this year's goal for the Honor Council is, as always, to hear no cases for the entire year. That is not to say that the council wants students or teachers to refrain from turning in cases but that theoretically a goal of perfection is the only ambition that could possibly produce a perfect result.

Loyalty, honor, self respect, and upright character are but a few of the many by-products of an effective Honor System. Only the students themselves can make the system worthwhile. We should take pride in our school and ourselves by taking the Honor Code seriously. This year should be very successful in all respects and the Honor

System should be no exception if we abide by it.

If there are any questions about the Honor System, the Code, or the members, you can contact one of these representatives:

12th Grade

Rob Welhoelter (President)

Zach Skipper

(Vice President)

Steven Bess (Secretary)

David Berry (Treasurer)

11th Grade

John Gunn

Will Parsons

Titus Thomas

10th Grade

Will Connelly

Brew Davis

Faculty Advisor

Mrs O'Connell

Note: Two Freshman representatives and one Junior School representative will be elected after the first grading period.

New Plans for Student Council

by Bradley Coburn

Fellow Students,

Throughout its one-hundred- and-twenty-eight year history, Montgomery Bell Academy has enjoyed an unequalled reputation for excellence in the field of secondary education. You and I, gentleman, are fortunate enough to be able to improve on our already distinguished heritage. We will do so through a student government of defined purpose. That purpose is two-fold: First, the Student Council will strengthen student-faculty relationships by providing a viable channel between the two parties, and second assist in the further development of M.B.A.'s role in the community.

I am pleased to announce that only two days into the year both aspects of the Student Council's mission had been engaged. Already such things as a food committee (Anderson Williams, John

McLendon, John Buchanan, and Bryan Keane) had been formed to review and handle all complaints or suggestions concerning food service. Furthermore, the student body accomplished a feat that I was distinctly told to be impossible. We raised, at the first class meetings, approximately \$300 for the Soup Kitchen. So far this year we have achieved total financial responsibility for the Soup Kitchen.

Through outstanding leadership, Vice-President Anderson Williams, Secretary Will Coles, and Treasurer J.T. Davenport, and the continued support of Mr. Gioia, this year promises to be great.

Faithfully,
Bradley Coburn
President of the
Student Council

New...

here. He is also an alumnus of MBA (Class of '80; that brings MBA's total number of faculty who are alumni to 8), and he received a B.A. in history from Vanderbilt in 1984 and an MBA from the University of Tennessee in 1989. For the past five years, Mr. Moore has been involved in sales with Mutual of New York and G. B. Searle. He will also be coaching varsity football as well.

Jerry Pearson: - Assistant football coach. Having coached and taught for 21 years at Dickson County, Greenbrier, Springfield, and East Robertson, Mr. Pearson brings a wealth of experience to MBA. He will be coaching our 9th grade football team and assisting with the varsity team. Mr. Pearson and his wife, Peggy, have two children.

The Bellringer staff and the student body welcome the new teachers and wish them many a happy year at MBA.

A REAL RACE FOR ONCE

by John Farringer

It is nearing another election time for the American people. For those of us in the Metropolitan Nashville area, the races are actually close this year. Although in recent history the democratic nominees have dominated the Senate seats and won the majority of the governor's races, this fall the votes should run much closer.

Bob Clement is pretty much unopposed in his bid for the House of Representatives, but the two bids for Senate are a different matter. As a result of many people's disappointment in the current president, the Republicans actually have a chance this year. In a recent newspaper poll, Dr. Bill Frist was favored to unseat Jim Sasser for one seat. Dr. Frist, an MBA alumnus, is a respected surgeon when he is not practicing politics. Jim Cooper still has a strong hold on the other seat, due to his conservative Democratic image (he voted against

Clinton's crime bill). But Fred Thompson, with his good old country-boy image, is gaining ground rapidly on Cooper. Cooper and Thompson are scheduled to have televised debates on October 12, 13, 23, and 28. Frist and Sasser will quarrel on the 9th, 16th, and 28th of October.


Ned McWherter has been governor for eight years and must now step down. He never did much wrong as governor, but he did not do much good either. This fact leaves the spot open for the new governor to change a lot. Mayor Phil Bredesen, despite his promise not to run, is the strong Democratic nominee. But ill feelings as a result of the escalating costs of the Nashville arena have lost some votes for him in Middle Tennessee. Don Sundquist is gaining a good reputation as Bredesen's opposition. Bredesen also lost some respect when he began with the dirty ad campaigns against Sundquist. Hopefully none of the other politicians

will stoop to that level. As a result of these faults, Sundquist and Bredesen are now head to head in the race for governor. There are televised debates scheduled between Bredesen and Sundquist on October 7, 16, 20, and 21.

My humble predictions: Frist will unseat Sasser for one Senate seat, while Jim Cooper will stay ahead of Thompson for the other one. The biggest victory for Republicans will occur when Sundquist becomes governor as a result of the lack of trust in Bredesen. If you don't vote, you can't complain.

Service...

held accountable for their overall credit total. Again, the Club requires ten credits (ideally equivalent to ten hours) in a semester to gain membership, and seven credits each additional semester to retain membership. Please note: a student can attain membership only in the first semester this year. The officers for the 1994-95 Service Club are as follows: President, Randy Howell; Vice Presidents, Kit Ozburn and Jimmy Rupley; Sergeants-at-Arms, Will Coles and Charlie Malone. MBA service is true service.



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OPINIONS

The Expense of Freedom of the Press

by Chris Kuhn

An alarming trend has developed in the media today, the peak of which began over the summer with a police chase and will end this fall, likely with a fallen hero. Courtroom cases have now become events for the press to feed on.

Even when one case ends, the media just moves on to another. The cases range from regular people such as the Menendez brothers, the Bobbitts, and Amy Fisher to high profile celebrities such as Michael Jackson and Tonya Harding. Then, of course, there's always O.J. and Nicole Simpson. Each morning the headlines are always the same. Every magazine at the checkout line is hawking their "shocking exclusive" cover story. All forms are covered: books, TV movies, newcasts, comic books, tabloids, and tabloid TV programs. The madness just does not end. Media coverage of cases used to be harmless; now it's at its obsessive extreme. The press can destroy a person's

reputation, as in the case of Michael Jackson, and even change the outcome of a case. For instance, several jurors in these high profile cases have resigned mid-trial due to the intense pressure applied by the media and the public.

The O.J. Simpson trial has been delayed as both the prosecution and the defense are experiencing trouble finding jurors who have not heard any information about the case. However, do we really want a jury made up of hermits and other such folks out of touch with the events in the world today? This difficulty also allows both sides to hand-pick a jury made up of members that meet their own specific criteria. This is not only unfair (imagine an author being able to select the critics who review his or her book), but it ultimately blocks the court system from serving its purpose.

In the trial of the L.A. officers who beat motorist Rodney King, it became clear that public opinion could affect a final decision. When Americans

expressed their opinions about the initial verdict, it resulted in another trial and, rightfully so; but not all cases are so obvious that the public can make a correct decision based on the limited truthful information they are exposed to. The judge, now forced to factor in possible public outcry, must make a decision.

The media has an obligation to report the news as it occurs. However, the media presently lingers too long on one topic. Even today, John Bobbitt can still be found in the headlines, presently for his new X-rated video, and Tonya Harding has popped up again, this time as a professional wrestler. Eventually, if the press does not end this alarming trend, it will only continue to destroy the quality of both the media and the courtroom.

Editor's note:
The expressed opinions are not necessarily those of MBA.

Conservatives unite! Down with Liberalism

by Will O'Hare
Conservative

I want to start off by explaining my purpose in writing this column. Basically, I feel that since Clinton was elected President and the Democrats have had control of the government, the country has been moving in a dangerous direction. It has been marching in a liberal direction. This column is a wake up call for the people who have not noticed what is happening. I do not always say things in the most delicate way, but I always tell the truth. Everything I write I think you, the reader, should know.

The biggest problem I have with the Clinton Administration and the liberal ideology in general is the notion that the government should provide everything for the people. President Clinton wants to play Big Brother and raise taxes on the hard working Americans, so he can show

he cares. Liberals such as Clinton think that the public is helpless without the government and, therefore, they encourage dependence. The goal of the liberals, then, is to increase the size of government and in so doing, they are destroying ambition, they are destroying incentive, and they are stripping America of the rugged individualism upon which it is based. The liberals disguise their evil and un-American policies by playing on the emotions of the people. They speak of caring, and helping; yet their actual plans are disastrous and usually do more harm than good. Often, politicians care more about the appearance of a particular bill than the actual substance of it. Do not be fooled into thinking that their ambitions are noble because all they want to do is help people. History has proven that all the liberal socialist countries have turned into fields of blood. The liberals say "Wouldn't it be great

if there were a country with free health care, free housing, ample jobs and no homeless?" I am quick to point out that such a country already exists: Cuba. And the citizens of that country are scrambling to get out of there as quickly as possible. Look at the former Soviet Union. Look at all the blood shed in Eastern Europe, all the men who died crawling through barbed-wire fences to obtain freedom. Increasingly, Clinton is trying to take away our own freedoms and our own income and by doing so he is literally enslaving the Americans.

For example, Clinton was so determined to have socialized medicine that he did not listen to what the public wanted. Fortunately the politicians realized that Americans don't want socialized health care, and the President has so far been defeated. But Clinton did have a victory with the "crime" bill. I want the government to do something

Calm Little Head

by Freddie O'Connell

I know this article is a bit belated, but I wanted to wait until a year's experimentation passed before I stated my feelings. I think that the new student lounge at the top of Isaac Ball Memorial Hall is a far, far cry from the noble trophy room from the days of, well, the days of yore.

Ball truly needed renovating, but for all its wear and tear, the Trophy Room was the only location on campus that could stand under the label "classic." So much went on in the now-fabled trophy room that had nothing whatsoever to do with trophies...

This alcove was a meeting place for students and teachers; only a small hallway separated the two groups. I know it will sound like a contradiction, but this union actually worked. Respect and mockery existed and flowed freely from both sides of the hall.

Besides being a harbor for lounging seniors, I found out in my sophomore year that everyone who could find one of the relatively few and truly precious seats was welcome. I used it for study hall primarily, but, for one glorious year, the Trophy Room was the home of after lunch

games of chess and its better hybrid: bug-house.

The Trophy Room was also home to many other activities, legit and non-. Chess always seemed to want to last beyond the boundaries of lunch period into study halls. An example of something far less legit than chess: the day that a former student brought to the Trophy Room a now notorious book by Madonna, and was quickly surrounded by a crowd of hormones that had taken over their hosts' bodies. Paper footballs and coins of varying denominations abounded on the glass surfaces of the big, bold table, while under their surfaces various bits of literature, lawful or lewd, lurked.

The new Student Lounge has many drawbacks: it is three hundred flights of stairs farther up the building than was the Trophy Room; its tables contain no natural materials (other than human oils and fluids that have by now made their way onto the surfaces); there is nary a teacher in sight, and few students make the ascent to the lonely spot in the attic, besides those who must pass through on the way to

Please see Calm, page 8

about crime, but his bill is clearly not the answer. It proposes to put 100,000 new policemen on the streets; however, it contains funding for only 20,000. Most of the bill consists of social programs that have no business being in a crime bill. And, of course, there is the infamous assault weapons ban. This attack on the rights of individuals falls into the liberal theory that once something is banned it is no longer a problem. We all know how successful the ban on drugs has been.

On the topic of drugs, our government actually uses tax dollars to encourage drug dependence. A person who is addicted to drugs is considered disabled, and therefore, the government gives him money to cope with his ability and to seek rehabilitation. Often the application for this money takes a while to get processed so the government pays the drug addict periodically. The drug

addict is given a large lump sum of thousands of dollars, is told to get rehabilitated, and proves that he no longer needs drugs, then the money stops coming to him. It is backward policies like this that are destroying our country, and the liberals are the people supporting them.

I hope that this November an informed public goes to the polls ready to send a message to Washington that it doesn't want Clinton's un-American policies. He has messed up this country long enough; let's start taking it back. And so ends my rant.

Go Big Red!!
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Go Big Red!!

Entertainment

Entertainment Spotlight: Paul Worley *Country Clubs: the Crux of Western Civilization*

by Matt Reasor

In 1968 Paul Worley graduated from MBA, continuing his education at Vanderbilt University by receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy. During his college years, he taught guitar at Cotten Music and began his first step into the music industry as a studio guitarist. As the years passed, he became one of Nashville's premier guitarists and producers. His playing can be heard on the albums of artists such as, Reba McEntire, John Anderson, Hank Williams Jr., Glen Campbell and many other notables.

In 1981, Worley rose to the top by producing Gary Morris' "Headed For A Headache." Since then, he has been responsible for twenty-three #1 records. Paul Worley is now Executive Vice-President for the creative direction of Columbia and Epic records

in Nashville. In 1993 he was named ASCAP's, BMI's and Billboard's Country Music Publisher of the year. He is now preparing to produce Collin Raye's and Martina McBride's next albums on Epic records. Worley says, "I can appreciate the range of perfection, there's not just one way to play that note, and there are many tiny shades of pitch that the human ear perceives as correct. I appreciate inexactness—and the imperfection—of music. Quite often, it's the imperfection in a song, or vocal performance, or a guitar solo, that makes people get up out of their chairs and dance. It's not the perfect stuff. It's the human factor." He shows a combination which is rarely seen: a perfect balance of a corporate mind and a musical technician's expertise. Paul Worley is truly one of the music industry's most accomplished individuals.

BEWARE TEENY BOPPERS!

T. Eddie Sisk

Something very frightening has happened in America today, and it's not the Cuban Refugee Crisis, North Korean Nuclear proliferation, or the Clinton Administration. No, boys and girls, it is the emergence of a "teeny bop" or "grunge" culture. Move your household pets, plants, and kids to a media proof structure or say hello to the Four Horseman of Social Apocalypse: the Stone Temple Pilots (oh I'm sorry STP), The New Kids (oh, I'm sorry N.K.O.T.B.), Pearl Jam, with what's left of Nirvana leading the charge. (I've got three words for you kids: Double Live Album) Parents, do you know where your kids are? Of course not. They are down at the Gap buying brand-new designer combat boots or "oh so cool flannels" to wear around their waist. All so they can fit in at the Smashing Pumpkins concert or so when they go on Sally Jesse to explain how greatly the death of Kurt Cobain has effected them. I mean, do we really need 24

hour MTV coverage, five separate biographies about the band, and critics explaining how Cobain changed the face of music? What kind of shape are we in when in our society we compare a man who killed himself because he was a little depressed, leaving behind a wife and a child who would never have a father, to Dylan, to Hendrix, or to Elvis! Holy media-created icon, Batman! This man was not close to any of these artists. He was not even fit to be the fifth "village person". They had the cop, the construction worker, the Indian, and the soldier. I do not think they needed the brooding, lowly white guy who could not dance!

I mean, don't get me wrong, but we should have killed Vanilla Ice or the New Kids before they began to consider themselves serious musical artists. Somebody should have barged backstage wearing a Matthew Sweet t-shirt and a case of plastique explosives, screaming "You can't seduce fourteen year-olds in this state Downie; it's illegal. Please see Beware, page 8

by Jack Troutt

Well, kids, the summer's finally come to a close, and I've been asked to write a review of one of America's last great institutions - country clubs. I realize that most of you probably frequented a country club this summer, but for those of you who actually did something constructive this summer and didn't have time to visit these social Meccas, I have reviewed five country clubs and rated them on a scale of 1 to 10.

1) Richland Country Club - Do you like listening to tipsy affluent men lie about their golf scores? If so, Richland Country Club is all you. I was pleasantly surprised with its facilities, especially the dining. If some of you choose to visit Richland, go on a Sunday, and don't forget to bring a tie and some pretentiousness, otherwise you aren't getting in. Richland loses points for a location essentially in the boondocks (Granny White) and for inebriated golf cart drivers, but its redeeming qualities outweigh those blemishes, so I graciously grant Richland an 8.

2) Hillwood Country Club - Faux Belle Meade. That just about sums up how I feel about this country club. Hillwood Country Club seems to serve no purpose, except as a play-

house for the *nouveau-riche*. Hillwood has no truly visible redeeming qualities - mediocre service, mediocre dining, mediocre facilities, etc. Hillwood is all show, and a waste of your time. Should this deter you from visiting Hillwood Country Club? Of course not, but if you decide to visit, I want you to bring a chainsaw, chop all the gold-plated Mercedes-Benz drivin', *nouveau-riche* fools into little pieces, throw them in a meat locker, and light the place on fire! I do, however, grant Hillwood a 4 based solely on the fact that it's close to my home.

3) Woodmont Country Club - Big Brother is watching you. At least that's how I felt at Woodmont. Just about everybody there was a paranoid freak, and would stare at me, fearing I was going to commit some horrible crime because I wore jeans. Although it's not spectacular, it is a comfortable country club, which I enjoyed. Also, even more urgent than the previous warning, Woodmont is located in what we will call "an unlightened rural area" of Middle Tennessee, so don't get lost on the way, or, well let's put it this way, have you ever seen "Deliverance"? Even with its KGB-like surveillance and its grievous location, I give Woodmont Country Club a 6.

4) Sequoia Club - Does anybody remember yuppies? You guys thought all the yuppies were gone, right? Well you were wrong, and guess what, they're all hanging out at Sequoia, millions of them. Those Saab-drivin', health food eatin', Tab drinkin', power-tie wearin' boogers refuse to die. Sequoia itself was poor, with the exception of the lap pool. With the yuppies and hardly any redeeming qualities to weigh against the yuppies, on a scale of 1 to 10, I give Sequoia a 4.

5) The public pool on Jefferson street - Sweet. I know what you guys are saying, you're saying that it's not really a country club, but I believe that it meets the criteria. I found out about this diamond in the rough (located across the street from the Otis Nixon Memorial housing projects) by recommendation of local rap and bowling legend, Patrick King. I jumped in my car, and went to check it out. It's relatively easy to find, but if you get lost just ask for directions. The public pool was pretty sweet so on a scale of 1 to 10, I give it a twelve!

Editor's note: Mr. Troutt's views are not shared by The Bell Ringer and MBA.

Magic: The Addiction.

by Tim Wesley

If you happen to walk into any comic store or games store and ask what the most popular game on the market is, without a doubt they'll point to a small box that looks like a cigarette package. The game is Magic: Created by Richard Garfield, *Magic: The Gathering* is a fantasy trading card game that has swept across the country like wildfire. Having been out on the market for only a year, the game has made \$40 million and has sold over 300 million cards.

Please see Beware, page 8

Why is it so popular? There are over one thousand individual cards, and each have their own special ability. To make the game interesting certain cards are more powerful and thus are quite rare. The player buys his or her cards and makes a custom deck that coincides with some sort of a devised strategy. However, to get the good cards, one must buy more starter decks or booster packs or trade away for cards to enhance the capabilities of the deck. Once the decks are built, the playing begins.

The game takes place

in a land called "Domnia," where each player is a wizard with the power to summon creatures, enchantments, sorceries, artifacts, and the like. The object of the game is to reduce your opponent's or opponents' life points to zero. Sounds simple? Not quite. There are five colors of spells, and certain colors of spells rival others. An opponent could cast a spell that could prevent all damage dealt from your spells, or could place an annoying enchantment on one of your creatures that would then slowly kill you, and an

Please see Magic, page 8

Sports

At the Wire, MBA Shows Fire Time...

by Bill Hancock

On a beautiful late-summerevening at Vanderbilt Stadium, the Big Red took the field against a Ryan team who beat us at home last year. The most enthusiastic MBA team in recent years came out firing. But a first quarter interception return for a touchdown, and two blocked punts, both resulting in subsequent touchdowns, left the Big Red with an 18-0 half-time deficit. The team refused to be beaten, and in the second half, the Big Red rallied for 21 unanswered points. The Big Red's first touchdown came in the third quarter when J.T. Davenport stepped in from inside the five yard line. The team's next score came in the fourth quarter when Montie Poe flipped a pass to Michael Frey and Max Fuller punched the ball in for the two-point conversion. The Big Red defense held and gave the ball back to the offense with only minutes remaining. In a stellar drive, the Big Red marched down the field, and on third down Poe faked a reverse to Ted Morrissey, turned the ball up field, froze

the defense with a pump-fake and scampered down the sideline for a touchdown. His play put the Big Red up 21-18 with just over half a minute remaining in the final period. But the luck of the Irish ran out with the game clock, and MBA fans and players poured onto Dudley Field celebrating one of the biggest comebacks in the school's football history against their most hated adversary in a game that no one who witnessed it will ever forget.



J.T. Davenport struts his stuff in MBA's comeback victory against Father Ryan.

swimming.

The program has been a smashing success thanks to teachers like: Mr. Whitfield, Mr. Wilcutts, and Mr. Fraley; to financial contributors such as Bill Weaver; and especially to the MBA students who served as aides and coaches: J.T. Davenport, Dave Sifford, Anderson Williams, Michael Stahl, Charles Davidson, Michael Godwin, and David Gilbert.

Will The Reign Ever End?

by Kenneth Pruitt

Well, sports fans, it's that time of the year. The time when the football players bore themselves of yet another consecutive month of playing football, the weenies take to the fairways and sandtraps, the Major Leaguers whine over their million-dollar paychecks, and the true men take to the Steeplechase to run cross-country.

arespectable finish in the State Meet. However, the conflict comes this year not from a lack of good runners on a plague of injuries, but in the form of another school. This school happens to be none other than the Evil Empire of Father Ryan.

Lead by top-caliber runners such as Cip Contreras, Adam Kuchy, and Christian Foster, the Irish are suppos-



The cross-country team looks to be the best in recent school history. With a huge base of talented seniors and strong support from the underclassmen, the Big Red is setting its sights on yet another Region VI-AA title and

edly going to challenge MBA for the Region Championship, something no other team has done in quite awhile. In fact, 1980 was the last year MBA lost the region. Although the phrase "taking it one meet at a time" is a bit cliched, this year's

The Definitive College Football 1994 Bible

by Rob Welhoelter

Parity is the name of the game in college football this season. The excitement of the gridiron should fill the void left by the Major League Baseball Strike. About 2 dozen teams have a legitimate shot at the national championship.

Arizona's "flex" defense has held opponents to 11.3 points and 45.5 rushing yards per game over the last two years. Six starters return on defense alone and the colossal offensive line should give the Wildcats a boost. Florida led 56-21 at halftime in their opener and show no signs of slowing down. QB's Terry Dean and Danny Wuerffel, who is only a sophomore, will be getting the ball to Jack Jackson as much as possible.

Nebraska (Tommy Frazier) was impressive in their 51-0 romp over West Virginia. Abut Muhammed should emerge as a big-time receiver. Frazier is the lead-

ing Heisman candidate since Tyrone Wheatley will miss Michigan's first three games. The Wolverines are hungry for the crown. Not since 1948 has Ann Arbor been home to a national champ. Fourteen returning starters want to make like the Rangers and win the whole thing.

Colorado, Notre Dame (with Heisman candidate Lee Becton), Penn State, and FSU always have a chance to win the big one. Some teams with outside shots include Miami, Oklahoma, (who has a superstar in the making in sophomore RB James "Lightning" Allen), Alabama, North Carolina, and Wisconsin.

The dark horse in this race has to be the Big East's Hokies of Virginia Tech. Seniors QB Maurice DeShazo and RB Dwayne Thomas (1,130 yds in '93) guided the team to a 9-3 record overshadowed by West Virginia's perfect campaign. Don't count the Hokies out, but traditionally the Big East hasn't fared

well in the polls.

In the SEC, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, and Auburn with Georgia as the underdog have shots at the conference title. Todd Helton will have to mature quickly due to hard-luck Jerry Colquitt's injury for the Vols to contend for a spot in Birmingham. Eric Zeier would need Georgia at least to win the East for him to be in contention for the Heisman. Kentucky and South Carolina look solid. Watch out for work-horse TD machine Brandon Bennet and the cocky Gamecocks to make some noise. Vanderbilt will need some players other than their four, count 'em, four seniors to step up if they want to equal last year's four wins (only 2 in the SEC).

In the West, count on Alabama for a return trip to Birmingham. Look for Jay Barker and Sam shade to have another outstanding year for Gene Stallings. Auburn is still on probation, 'nuff said. Mississippi State and Arkansas

look strong on paper but need to pull out the close ones. Put Ole Miss and LSU in the closet. Both teams are on decline. Don't get me wrong, they'll upset some good teams, but they pose no threat to the Crimson Tide juggernaut.

I'll give the nod in the national championship hunt to Nebraska and Tommy Frazier probably deserves the Heisman unless Tyrone Wheatley has an outstanding nine games. Keep in mind he is Michigan's all-time leader in career scoring, touchdowns, rushing, and all-purpose yards. But let's hope the championship stays in the South.

Trials...

The following Friday at home the Overton Bobcats were downed in another scrimmage. Having been invited to the Brentwood High jamboree, the Big Red squad fell in two quarters of action to Franklin High, 14-7, in a game where many younger players were able to see their first action. Although the Big Red lost in the jamboree, the team had a much larger goal in focus...the Father Ryan Fightin' Irish.

For more on the Irish, see top of this page, At the Wire...

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SPORTS

Summer Football: Trials and Tribulations

by Bill Hancock

Although the Big Red football team began its season on September 2 against Father Ryan, their preparation for a run at the Region 6 5A title began with intensive training sessions last winter, this spring, and on through this summer. Besides the weight training and conditioning that took place last school year, for the first time in the school's history there was a spring football program. All varsity football candidates not involved with another sport took the opportunity to learn a new system and prepare themselves for the next fall's practice.

Tom Moore, who graduated from Montgomery Bell in 1980, joined the staff to coach defensive backs in the spring also. Almost immediately after commencement in the spring, the varsity began its summer strength and conditioning program. Under the watchful eye of the motivational new strength coach Brad "Billy Rae" Reece (MBA '88), the team members came

in each weekday afternoon. The strenuous weight lifting coupled with summer jobs exacted a heavy toll on the players. A special emphasis was also put on running abilities as a complement to the lifting for the day. Strength improvement was evident in each of the athletes.

In July many players took the opportunity to attend the first annual MBA football specialty camp. For a week the players were able to work on their respective positions, while they increased speed and strength. Added to the coaching staff at this time were Jerry Dearson and Ed Caudill, both coming from Dickson County. Toward the end of July and into early August, those interested were working on a voluntary basis, tuning skills in passing, catching, blocking, and defending— all non-contact of course.

With the end of summer, weight training and subsequent testing completed, the team took a few days off until August 4, which was the beginning of the long awaited two-a-day practice period.

After meeting as an entire squad for the first time that morning, the team began practice that afternoon. By the next Monday, two-a-days were in full swing. Arriving early each morning, players readied themselves for the morning practice sessions. After a couple of hours of full contact drills, the players showered and met as groups with coaches to discuss technique or review film. The entire team, including the freshman who decided to practice in the summer with the varsity, then made its way to Frist Hall daily for lunch. After lunch, the players were able to lounge around and rest, occasionally being awakened for group meetings, in order to prepare themselves for the sweltering heat of the afternoon practice sessions. This was the typical routine for the first two weeks of practice.

Sandwiched between the practices, the Big Red made a trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky, and defeated the Warren Central Dragons in the first scrim. Please see Trials, page 6.

Reign...

group of runners realizes that, in the immortal words of co-captain Mark Wyckoff, "there's only hard days and harder days if you wanna beat Ryan."

With another grueling but memorable week of cross-country camp under their belts, the team prepared for its annual scrimmage on the first day of school, the T. Michael Drake Invitational. Even though the meet is not scored, it is beneficial to note that the Big Red would have won easily, taking places 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10.

The leadership of

Coaches Pruitt, Corzine, and occasionally Rundberg will help the co-captainship of Mark Wyckoff, John Farringer, and Zach Skipper lead the squad to victory in '94. With seniors numbering in the thousands and a promising group of underclassmen, the team is very confident of its potential this season. Please come out and support the cross-country team this fall. It truly means something to hear a fellow student screaming at you at the two-mile pole. Plus, cross-country meets are always joint meetings with Harpeth Hall.

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Golf Team Driving for State Tournament

by Charlie Malone

As I'm sure many of you don't know, but are excited to hear, the MBA golf season is well into full swing this fall. Coach Mike Caldwell opened up a new season of MBA golf with tryouts this August through which the final team was decided. This year the golf team consists of seniors Cooper Jones, Charlie Malone, Jake Ossoff, and Jonathan Ramsey; juniors David McDowell, Elliot Teague, Ben Bodzy, and John Price; sophomore Morgan Hillenmeyer; freshman James Malone and Bryan Sturtevant; and impressive eighth graders Noble Judy and Brandt Snedeker. After the team was formed and goals were set, MBA opened the season with a second place finish in a huge field of teams from across the Midstate in the Early bird Invitational at Cookeville Country Club. After the impressive, yet slightly unsatisfying showing in Cookeville, the Big



Jones blasts away

Red, led by senior Cooper Jones, swept three straight three-team matches over six non-district opponents. Next, unfortunately, The Big Red's first loss came as a surprise to non-district opponent Lipscomb on the grassy links and well manicured greens of Percy Warner Golf course. The team finally opens district play next week against Hillsboro, and then after matches against rivals Brentwood High and Ryan, among others, tournaments start on October 3. Coach Caldwell says, "I'm expecting a very good year. We are fairly young but talented. We have an excellent chance to reach our goal, which is to get to the state tournament."

In order to get support the team isn't going to stoop to the pathetic level of offering bribes (cross-country), but do not think that you are not welcome to come out and watch the Big Red.

MICHAEL Renee'
LIFESTYLE PORTRAITURE

SALUTES



Rob Welhoelter

Rob is the President of the Honor Council, a star of the Basketball team, staff writer for the Bell Ringer, and member of Totomoi cum laude.

News, Sports, And Opinions

Summer Movie Mash

By Beau Tidwell

This summer, I saw the release of several spectacular and several not-so-spectacular films. First up, Natural Born Killers, from my-man-Oliver Stone; it was incredible. Woody Harrelson and Juliette Louis were STUNNING! Tommy Lee Jones does an amazing job as warden for the two celebrity psychotics. Jones delivers his best performance since The Fugitive, a role which seems to have typecast him as a driven police official parts like in The Client. The Client, a movie which I personally found really formulaic for Grisham and wouldn't pay to see again. Speaking of the summer's bunk, Clear and Present Danger was good, but I think I liked it better the first time when it was called Patriot Games. True Lies, on the other hand, was a first-class summer action romp with the King of the Hill: Arnold Schwarzenegger. He and Jamie Lee Curtis bring viewers an awesome action-blasters reminiscent of Sean Connery's James Bond stuff. In related news, Pierre Bronson was

Magic . . .

even more brutal possibility is draining life from you and giving it to herself. In whatever situation you could potentially have, there are about a thousand options you could have, depending on the cards you have in your deck.

The combination of the marketing and game play create an addictive situation: you want to win games (in some cases to win an ante card), thus you need the better cards. To get good cards to trade or to keep, you buy more to find better cards or cards you had never seen. The hope of getting the good cards is probably the main reason for the addiction. To add to the cards that are in print now, Wizards of the Coast will print limited edition card runs that will have cards with properties unheard of, and these cards also give reasons to buy even more cards. These limited edition cards sell out in record time, as one edition released in June called "Legends" sold out across the country in three

signed to be the new James "Agent 007" Bond, a move I couldn't be happier with. Other tearjerkers like Forrest Gump, turned out to be really spectacular. Tom Hanks does a remarkable bit of work for this blockbuster. I think everyone should give it a shot as it is one of the most unique films to come by in a long time. Other quick mentions: The Shadow knows how to s---, Tombstone, I mean Wyatt Earp, sure could have been shorter, and The Lion King is being attacked by feminists for not having strong female roles (wasn't it about a patriarchal monarchy?). Oh yeah, before I go, here's a list of stuff NOT to rent EVER!

1. All I Want For Christmas
2. 3 Ninjas
3. Captain Ron
4. Highlander 2
5. Hudson Hawk
6. (anything with Patrick Swayze)
7. (anything with Pauly Shore)
8. Other Peoples' Money
9. Encino Man
10. So-in-Law

days.

Having grown up with an older brother who was obsessed with role-playing games, I had grown to hate almost all of them, save a few, but I can assure you this is much different. Magic is quicker, portable, and allows for more game play. If you like any card games (e.g. spades, hearts, etc.), chess, or role playing games, Magic combines the three into one, ultimately creating the perfect game for virtually any type of person.

Impressions

dividuals who were hurt or in need. I have discovered that our "gentleman" ideal is real and genuine.

I believe our greatest challenge at MBA is to continue to compete at the greatest level in all arenas and to keep the balance of the "gentleman, scholar, athlete" in focus and perspective. We must work diligently to stay self-disciplined, to respect one another, and to seek out new ways to develop this community. I hope that we will make great use of our resources by continuing to pave new paths of leadership and by developing this institution as a model for other schools. I want us to take great care of this beautiful campus, to respect one another, and to take seriously the expectations made clear in this community. I look forward to working with you and will do everything I can to help you, to promote this school, and to make our time together productive and enjoyable.

BEWARE. . .

so you wanted to torch your hotel room—Merry Christmas!" Then blow all of them to a small Pacific island where some cannibals would have made some decent fried chicken out of them (everything tastes like chicken, even teen idols). You might think, who is he to be criticizing my musical and fashion taste? I am the top of the food chain, pal, so you might as well get used to it. Excuse me, I have got to go slit my wrists; I heard Debbie Gibson is making a comeback.

The Beast

VARSITY ATHLETIC SCHEDULE FOR FALL SPORTS

VARSITY FOOTBALL

September 16.....McGavock at MBA
September 23.....Whites Creek at MBA
September 30.....MBA at Hillsboro
October 7.....MBA at Clarksville Northeast
October 14.....Henry County at MBA
October 21.....Hunters Lane at MBA
October 28.....MBA at Hillwood
November 4.....Dickson at MBA

VARSITY X-COUNTRY

September 20.....Franklin, Hillwood at SEC
September 24.....A. F. Bridges Invit. at Steepl.
October 1.....Lexington Catholic at Lexington
October 4.....Hillsboro, Father Ryan at SEC
October 8.....Gallatin Invitational at Gallatin
October 13.....District Meet at SEC
October 20.....Metro Championship at Steepl.
October 27.....Regional Meet at Steepl.
November 5.....State Meet at Steepl.

VARSITY GOLF

September 20.....Hillwood at Ted Rhodes
September 21.....Brentwood High at Ted Rhodes
September 22.....Pearl-Cohn at Ted Rhodes
September 26.....Clarksville at Eastling Green
September 27.....Father Ryan at Ted Rhodes
September 29.....Overton at Harpeth Hills
October 3.....District Meet at McCabe
October 27.....Regional Meet at McCabe
November 5.....State Meet at Henry Horton

Calm . . .

publication rooms; there are no windows large enough (or that can even open, for that matter) to serve as entrances and exits for people or their unwilling belongings; the dizzying altitude often makes folk nauseous; it just ain't hip; no trophies...

I know there's not much we can do now. I realize that though my words will probably inspire many of you to make large "Bring Back the

Trophy Room" signs and march solemnly around campus chanting spontaneous dirges brought on by the near-holy spirit of the very room itself, it would just be a waste of time. The period of mourning is probably over for most by now, anyway, but in my mind there will never be a true grace period for the Student Lounge. The Trophy Room has now passed into fable and legend, and that is the sort of home it deserves.



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